

I'm writing to support this ARRL petition. Licensed as a Technician amateur operator since 1994 I've enjoyed intensive satellite operations contacting the MIR and ISS on several occasions and operating on the VHF and UHF bands using all modes except Morse code. I've experimented with amateur TV, packet, and slow scan TV as well as extensive operations on single side band and FM. It's time to remove the code requirement for HF privileges. New digital technologies are every bit as reliable as code during poor band conditions. As a physician board certified in 3 specialties , I've been frustrated at the difficulty I've had in mastering Morse code. I believe I, and many other competent amateurs with poor code skills, have a lot to offer to the hobby. Ensuring it's future will also preserve an important resource for emergency communications. Gary S. Williams,M.D.